

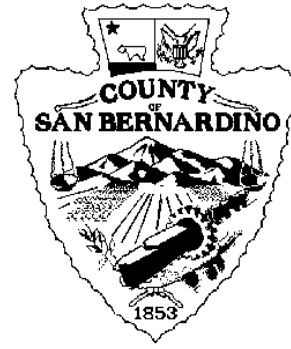
# ***NEWS***

*From the Office of*

## **Brad Mitzelfelt**

Supervisor, First District  
San Bernardino County

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
June 23, 2009



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### **County Employees Serving in Military Receive Extended Benefits**

SAN BERNARDINO – County employees who are called to active military duty will continue to receive full benefits and the County will continue to make up the difference between their military pay and County salary, after the Board of Supervisors today approved an extension of the policy.

“When members of our County family willingly put themselves in harm’s way to protect our freedom, the least we can do is ensure that they and their families are well cared for,” said First District Supervisor Brad Mitzelfelt, who served in the U.S. Marines during Operation Desert Storm. “With five military bases in San Bernardino County, we have chosen to be a leader in supporting the men and women who have volunteered to serve.”

The program was initiated almost immediately after the terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001. Since then, about 130 County employees have used the program while on extended military leave. There are currently 16 County employees on active duty.

State law requires reservists who are called up for active duty to receive their full salary for 30 days. The County policy requires that those on active duty continue to receive their full County benefits, and receive the difference between their military pay and County salary, which usually is considerably higher.

The County was recently named the most supportive of the military among California’s 58 counties by the Yellow Ribbon America Campaign and the California State Legislature. In addition to providing full benefits, the County provides health and social services to members of the military and their families, and has shown support through food and supply drives.